

MOTION TO CONCUR

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move that the Senate concur in the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2471.

MOTION TO CONCUR WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4984

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to concur in the House amendment to H.R. 2471, with an amendment. The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to concur in the House amendment to H.R. 2471, with an amendment numbered 4984.

Mr. SCHUMER. That is the correct number.

I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. ____ EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 1 day after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4985 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4984

Mr. SCHUMER. I have an amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 4985 to amendment No. 4984.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike "1 day" and insert "2 days".

MOTION TO REFER WITH AMENDMENT NO. 4986

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I move to refer H.R. 2471 to the Committee on Appropriations, with instructions to report back forthwith, with an amendment.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] moves to refer H.R. 2471 to the Committee on Appropriations with instructions to report back forthwith, with an amendment numbered 4986.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To add an effective date)

At the end add the following:

SEC. ____ EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Act shall take effect on the date that is 4 days after the date of enactment of this Act.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4987

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have an amendment to the instructions at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 4987 to the instructions of the motion to refer.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, line 3, strike "4" and insert "5".

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The yeas and nays are ordered.

AMENDMENT NO. 4988 TO AMENDMENT NO. 4987

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I have a second-degree amendment at the desk.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report.

The senior assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from New York [Mr. SCHUMER] proposes an amendment numbered 4988 to amendment No. 4987.

Mr. SCHUMER. I ask unanimous consent to dispense with the reading.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To modify the effective date)

On page 1, line 1, strike "5" and insert "6".

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. SCHUMER. Madam President, I ask unanimous consent that if Senator PAUL makes a motion to discharge S.J. Res. 35, the vote on the motion occur at 4:15 p.m. today; further, that following the vote, the Senate proceed to executive session and vote on the confirmation of Calendar No. 547, the nomination of Maria Pagan, as provided for under the previous order; and that following the disposition of the nomination, the Senate resume legislative session.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The President pro tempore.

H.R. 2471

Mr. LEAHY. Madam President, before I even start, I do want to compliment the staff—later, I will put all of the names in the RECORD—who

worked weekends and late at night. I remember times when I would get off the phone with them at 11 o'clock at night and 12 midnight. I could go to bed, but they were still there working until 3 or 4 in the morning.

Yet, after all of those months of negotiations, the Committee on Appropriations introduced the \$1.5 trillion fiscal year 2022 Omnibus appropriations bill. As I will explain, this is the consolidation of 12 annual appropriations bills to fund the Federal Government for the remainder of the fiscal year. Last night, the House passed it on a bipartisan basis. It is now before us, and we need to act on it quickly.

Our annual appropriations bills are where we reflect on our national priorities. In total, this bill includes \$730 billion in nondefense funding. That is a \$46 billion increase over fiscal year 2021. This 6.7-percent increase is the largest in 4 years for nondefense programs. It allows for significant investments in the American people that will expand the middle class.

The bill also provides urgent funding for the people of Ukraine as they battle Vladimir Putin's immoral, unprovoked, and brutal invasion—an invasion which, actually, labels Vladimir Putin as a "war criminal."

It is unquestionably in the interest of the American people that the Senate act quickly to pass this bill and send it to President Biden. I will tell you why it is so important.

In the wake of the pandemic, children and schools across the country have been falling behind in math and reading, and children in low-income and minority communities have been falling even further behind their peers. One study found that third graders who are attending school in low-income communities tested 17 points lower in math than they did just in 2019. We can't allow a global pandemic to set these children further back on the path to a bright future.

The bill includes \$17.5 billion—the largest increase in more than a decade—for title I-A grants. These grants provide funding for more than half of our Nation's public schools to help students, particularly in low-income communities, meet college and career-ready academic standards.

And to help these children succeed before they even step foot in the classroom, the bill includes more than \$11 billion for Head Start. The bill also increases the maximum Pell Grant award by \$400—also the largest increase in more than a decade—so that as these students succeed they can go on to pursue a college education. Pell Grants help more than 7 million students pursue a postsecondary education every year.

Now, of course, we are investing in these children, but we are also investing in their families. Ask any young family and they will tell you that the pandemic exacerbated the childcare crisis. Parents, and particularly women, are being forced out of the